GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2438
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2016
Central Board of Film Certification
Gogoi Shri Gaurav;Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) has been censured by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) for inordinate delay in certification and altering the categories of films;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government has directed the CBFC to take action as per CAG's latest report and if so, the details thereof;
(d) whether despite completion of certification process, time taken for issue of certificates ranged between 3 to 491 days;
(e) if so the details and the reasons thereof;
(f) whether the Union Government had set up a committee to revamp the functioning of the CBFC; and
(g) if so, the details in this regard and further action contemplated thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING [COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)]

(a) to (e): Comptroller and Auditor General(CAG) in its Report No. 11 of 2016 has observed that there are unexplained delays in the certification process on part of the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) and that the Board has converted certain certified films from 'A' to 'UA'/'U' categories.
On the observations of CAG, the Government had sought action taken report from CBFC. CBFC has intimated that at present there is no unexplained delay in the certification process and that all the films are being cleared within 10 to 15 days from the date of application, though the maximum number of days as per Rule 41 of the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983 are 68 days. CBFC has also stated that any delay in the issue of certificate is due to the

non-completion of formalities by the applicant concerned. CBFC has further clarified that alteration in categories of films is as per the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules.

(f) & (g): The Government constituted a Committee of Experts under the Chairmanship of Shri Shyam Benegal to evolve broad guidelines / procedures for certification of films by CBFC, within the ambit of Cinematograph Act, 1952 and Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983. The Committee submitted first part of its report in April, 2016 and final part in June, 2016. The recommendations of the Committee are being examined in the Ministry.

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